CIVIL WAR

CHARLES SOULE

LEINIL FRANCIS YU

GERRY ALANGUILAN

SUNNY GHO

WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?

SECRET WARS

MARVEL

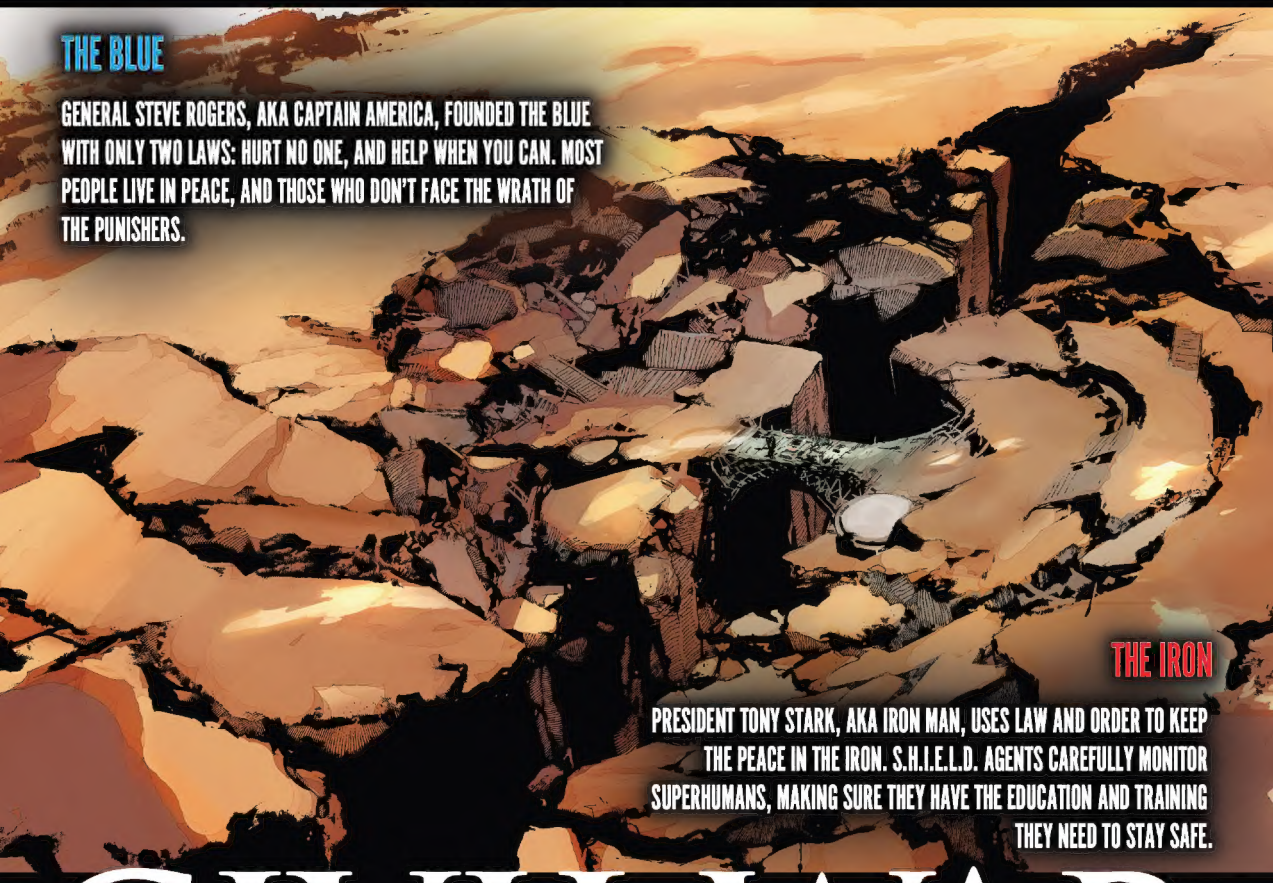
5

AR

THE MULTIVERSE WAS DESTROYED! NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS...IS **BATTLEWORLD!**

A MASSIVE, PATCHWORK PLANET COMPOSED OF THE FRAGMENTS OF WORLDS THAT NO LONGER EXIST, MAINTAINED BY THE IRON WILL OF ITS GOD AND MASTER, VICTOR VON DOOM!

EACH REGION IS A DOMAIN UNTO ITSELF, AND IN THE DOMAIN CALLED THE WARZONE, THE WAR OVER THE SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT NEVER ENDED. THE BATTLE IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO END THE WAR INSTEAD CAUSED AN EXPLOSION THAT KILLED FIFTEEN MILLION PEOPLE, AND THE DOMAIN WAS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE.



THE BLUE

GENERAL STEVE ROGERS, AKA CAPTAIN AMERICA, FOUNDED THE BLUE WITH ONLY TWO LAWS: HURT NO ONE, AND HELP WHEN YOU CAN. MOST PEOPLE LIVE IN PEACE, AND THOSE WHO DON'T FACE THE WRATH OF THE PUNISHERS.

THE IRON

PRESIDENT TONY STARK, AKA IRON MAN, USES LAW AND ORDER TO KEEP THE PEACE IN THE IRON. S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS CAREFULLY MONITOR SUPERHUMANS, MAKING SURE THEY HAVE THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING THEY NEED TO STAY SAFE.

CIVIL WAR

THE BLUE INVADED THE IRON, SPARKING THE FINAL BATTLE BETWEEN THE IRON AND THE BLUE. MEANWHILE, TONY STARK AND SHE-HULK WERE CAPTURED DEEP IN THE DIVIDE BY THE SHAPE-SHIFTING SKRULL QUEEN VERANKE, WHO WAS SECRETLY MANIPULATING THE TWO FACTIONS TO KEEP THE WAR GOING. THEY DEFEATED THEIR SKRULL CAPTORS, BUT THE BATTLE RAGED ON ABOVE THEM, AND STEVE ROGERS WAS ONLY MOMENTS AWAY FROM DETONATING THE BELLCURVE BOMB, A WEAPON THAT CAN SHUT DOWN SUPER-POWERS PERMANENTLY...

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HOW CAN WE *STOP* THIS, TONY?
I DON'T KNOW, JEN. THE BLUE AND THE IRON ARE FINALLY IN *OPEN WAR*, AFTER VERANKE AND WHAT'S LEFT OF HER SKRULL EMPIRE SPENT *YEARS* MAKING SURE ALL WE WANTED WAS TO TEAR OUT EACH OTHERS' *THROATS*.
OUR WORLD WAS ONE BIG PILE OF DYNAMITE, AND SHE JUST *BLEW IT UP*.

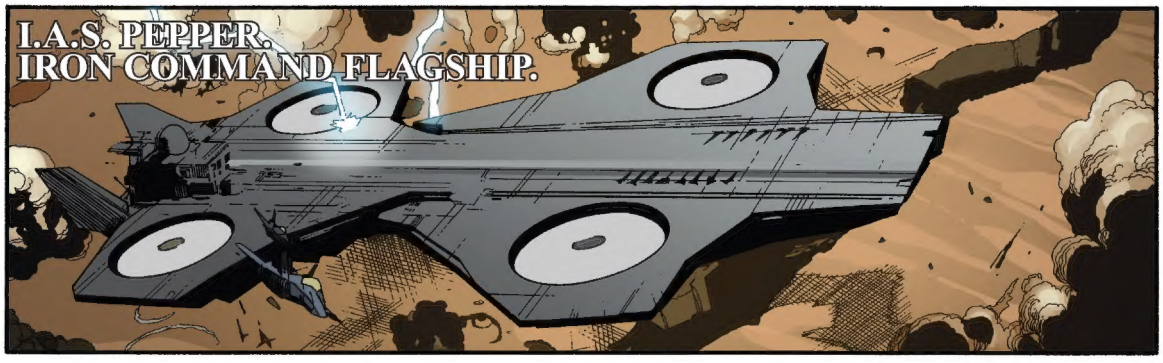
KRRNCH
WE HAVE TO GET BACK *UP* THERE. THIS DAMN PLACE IS DAMPENING MY *SIGNALS*-- CAN'T CALL FOR A NEW SUIT OF *ARMOR*.
UP? WHERE *ARE* WE? I WAS UNCONSCIOUS WHEN THEY BROUGHT ME HERE.

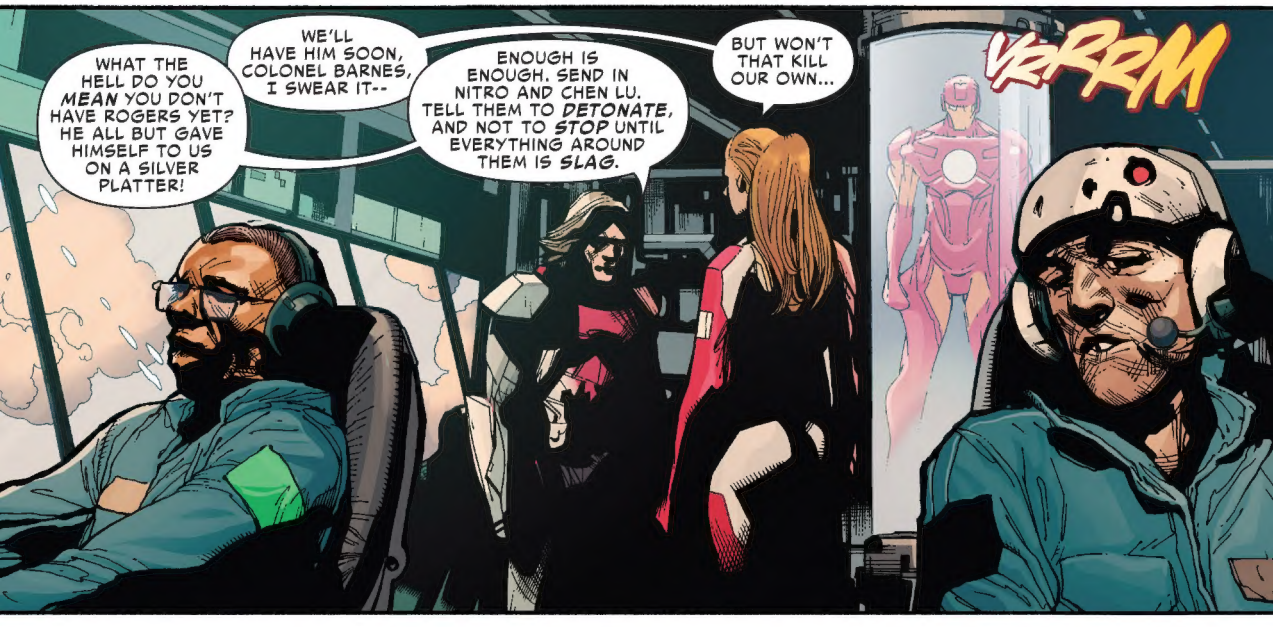
MM...

IN THE DIVIDE. DEEP.
ABOUT THAT.

BATTLE OF THE DIVIDE.
HOUR THREE.
TAKE OUT ROGERS! IF HE GOES DOWN, WE CAN WIN THIS WAR!
UH-UH.
KRRACK
NOT ON MY WATCH.

PARKER! EXECUTE OPERATION PARTHIAN SHOT! NOW!
ACKNOWLEDGED, STEVE! HOW MUCH TIME DO I HAVE TO PULL MY GUYS BACK?
ON IT.
NONE! WE'RE ABOUT TO BE OVERWHELMED HERE. GET YOUR POWERED TROOPS OUT OF THE BLAST RADIUS IMMEDIATELY.
AND WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE YOU?
I'VE CALLED CASTLE IN TO HELP DEFEND THE BOMB. I'LL BE FI--
YOU NEED TO GO, TOO...RIGHT NOW. PETER'S REGROUPING BEHIND THE LINES WITH THE HIGHER-POWER-LEVEL FIGHTERS. GET THERE. WE'LL NEED YOU FOR WHAT'S COMING.
SMASH
YEAH. THINK I'LL STICK AROUND.


I.A.S. PEPPER.
IRON COMMAND FLAGSHIP.


WHAT THE HELL DO YOU *MEAN* YOU DON'T HAVE ROGERS YET? HE ALL BUT GAVE HIMSELF TO US ON A SILVER PLATTER!
WE'LL HAVE HIM SOON, COLONEL BARNES, I SWEAR IT--
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. SEND IN NITRO AND CHEN LU. TELL THEM TO *DETONATE*, AND NOT TO *STOP* UNTIL EVERYTHING AROUND THEM IS *SLAG*.
BUT WON'T THAT KILL OUR OWN...
VRRRM

DO IT NOW, OR YOU GO DOWN THERE WITH THEM.

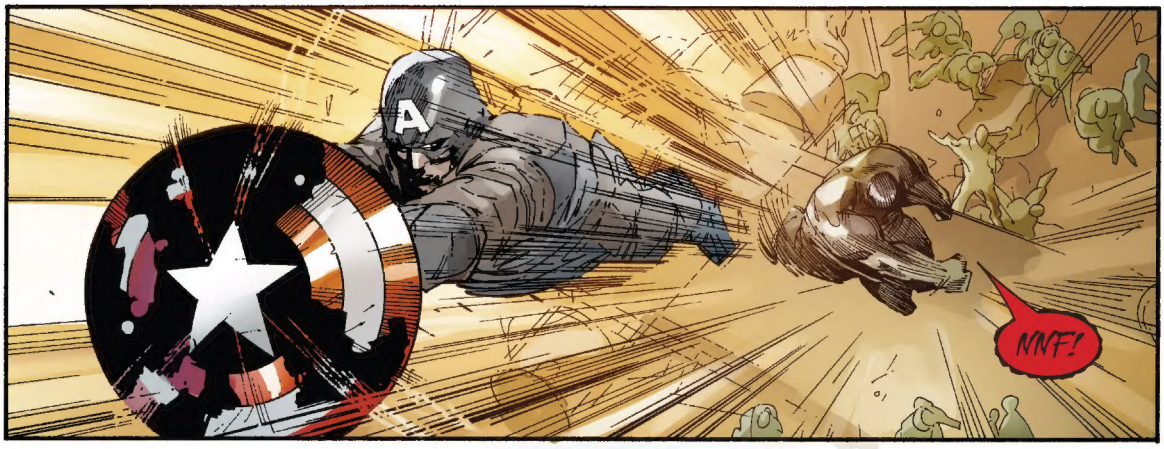
KSHA
WHAT THE--

KRA

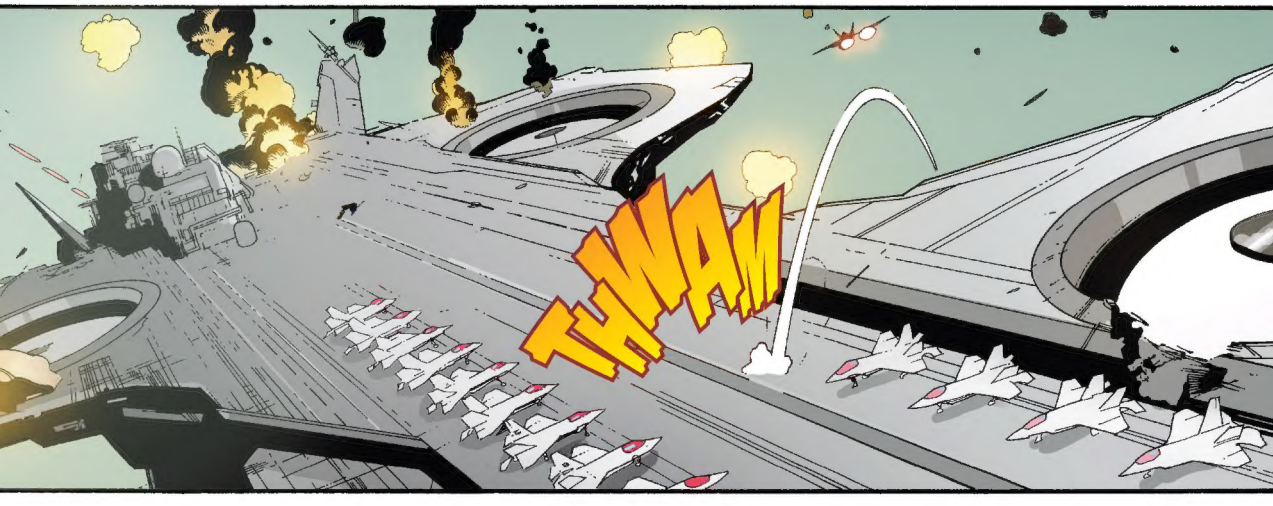
I NEED TO GO BACK IN, TONY. I HAVE TO GET VERANKE. I CAN'T LET HER ESCAPE.
MIRIAM SHARPE GAVE HER *LIFE* TRYING TO MAKE THINGS BETTER. VERANKE MURDERED HER. SHE HAS TO FACE *JUSTICE*.
FOR MIRIAM, AND FOR EVERYONE ELSE.
BUT VERANKE'S GOT GOD KNOWS HOW MANY SKRULLS WITH HER! YOU WANT TO TAKE ALL OF THAT ON...ALONE?
I MEAN...
...ISN'T THIS WHAT WE ALL USED TO BE *ABOUT?*
GOD, YOU'RE MAGNIFICENT.
YOU ARE NOT WRONG.
BUT THERE'S A CHANCE I COULD FAIL. YOU NEED TO DO *WHATEVER IT TAKES* TO END THIS. PROMISE ME: *WHATEVER IT TAKES.*
WHATEVER IT TAKES. I PROMISE.

...IS THAT STARK?
YES. IT IS.

THROW ME. RIGHT NOW.
YOU SURE? THAT WAS ALWAYS MORE RASPUTIN'S--
RIGHT NOW!
YES, SIR.


NNF!

KRAKK


THWAM

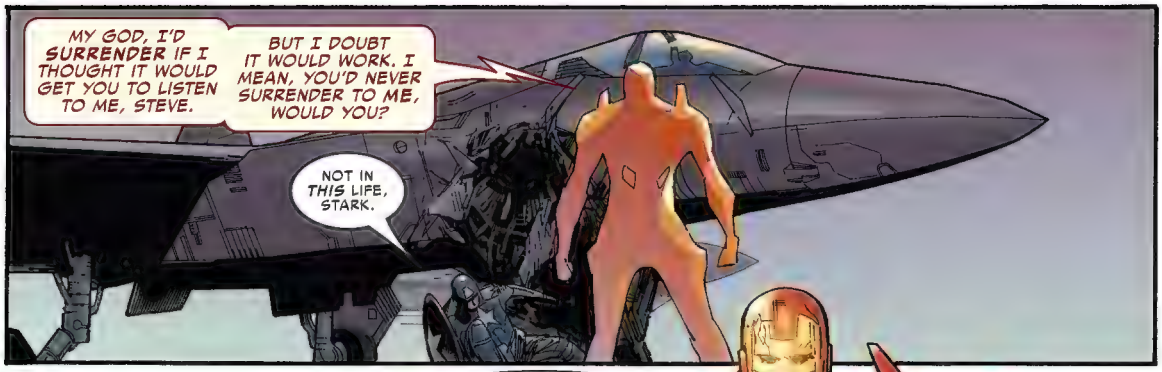
PRESIDENT STARK! STEP AWAY! WE'LL TAKE HIM.
NO. I'VE GOT THIS.
ARE YOU SURE? I--
I'VE GOT THIS! BRING ME COLONEL BARNES AND EMMA FROST. THAT'S ALL I NEED FROM YOU. RIGHT AWAY, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS HERE. WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME.
SMASH
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT.

STEVE! WE NEED TO TALK! BELIEVE ME!

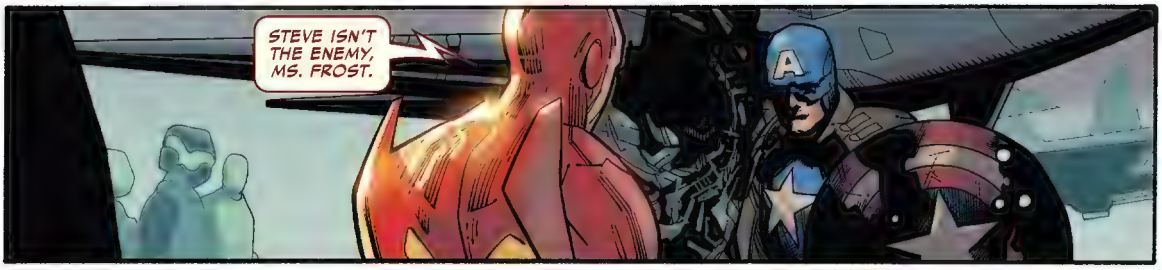
NO.

KATHOOM

THWAM


MY GOD, I'D SURRENDER IF I THOUGHT IT WOULD GET YOU TO LISTEN TO ME, STEVE.
BUT I DOUBT IT WOULD WORK. I MEAN, YOU'D NEVER SURRENDER TO ME, WOULD YOU?
NOT IN THIS LIFE, STARK.

BARNES AND FROST, AS ORDERED, MR. PRESIDENT.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, STARK? YOU'VE CAPTURED THE ENEMY'S LEADER. HAVE WE WON?


STEVE ISN'T THE ENEMY, MS. FROST.

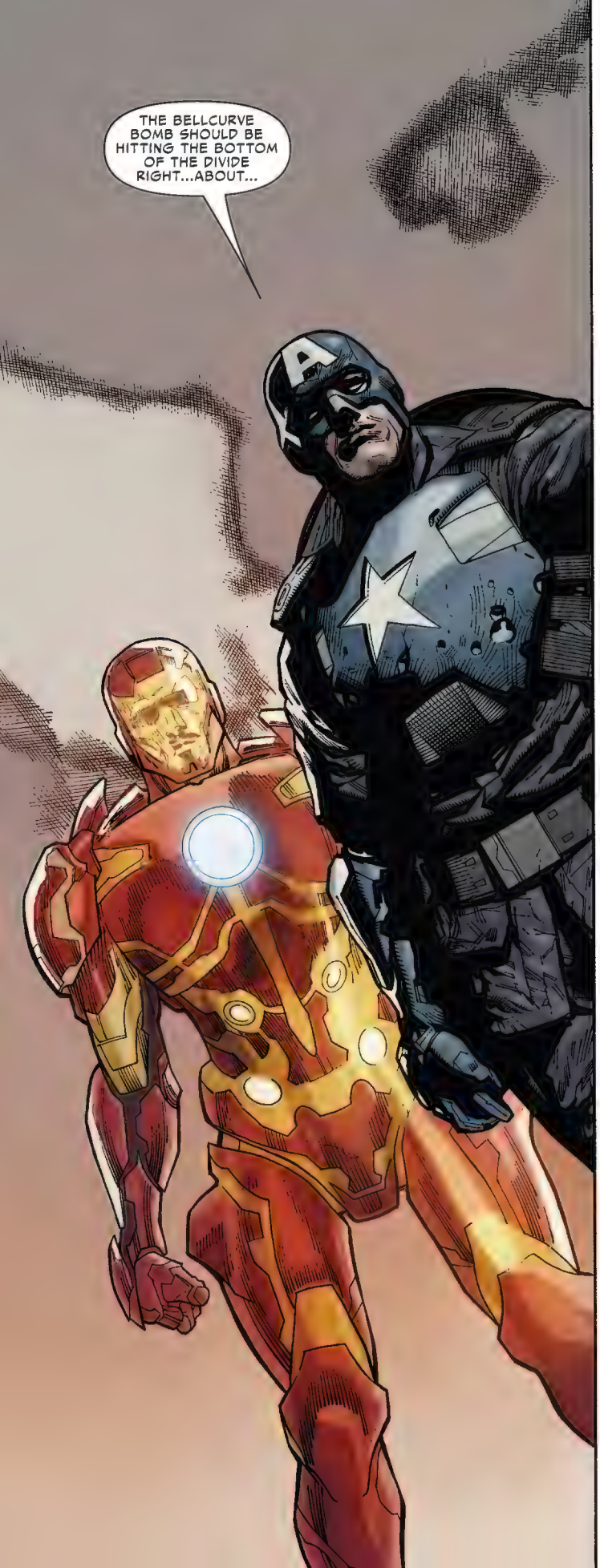
HE IS.
SHOW THEM, BARNES. JEN WALTERS TOLD ME THE TRUTH. SHOW THEM, AND I'LL LET YOU LIVE.
TONY, YOU NEED TO CALM DOWN. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE--

KZZAK

THAT CANNOT POSSIBLY BE A...
A SKRULL, EMMA. A SHAPE-CHANGING ALIEN. THEY'VE BEEN MANIPULATING US FOR YEARS. ALMOST THE ENTIRE WAR.
WAS BUCKY EVER...REALLY BACK?
I WISH I KNEW, STEVE. I CAN'T SAY.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHY?
THEIR QUEEN, VERANKE. SHE WAS THE SPEARHEAD OF A SECRET ATTEMPT TO INVADE OUR DOMAIN. WHEN IT FAILED, SHE WAS ABANDONED HERE WITH A SMALL GROUP OF HER PEOPLE.
SHE'S BEEN MANIPULATING THE WAR BETWEEN THE IRON AND THE BLUE, KEEPING IT HOT SO THAT WE'D ALL KILL EACH OTHER OFF AND SHE COULD TAKE CONTROL.
YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THIS? NONE OF IT WAS YOUR FAULT? I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE CAPABLE OF, STARK. THIS ALL SEEMS INCREDIBLY CONVENIENT.
I NEVER SAID THIS WASN'T MY FAULT. I SHOULD HAVE SEEN IT. BUT I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU CAN'T JUST TAKE MY WORD.
MS. FROST. YOU'RE THE MOST TALENTED TELEPATH IN THE WORLD. REACH INTO MY MIND. SHOW GENERAL ROGERS WHAT I SAW.
FLATTERER.
DEAR GOD.

VERANKE'S BEEN DOWN IN THE DIVIDE, ALL THIS TIME?
LOOKS LIKE IT--SHE'S BEEN RUNNING SKRULL AGENTS ON BOTH SIDES.
SHE'LL TRY TO ESCAPE. EVEN IF WE CALL A CEASE-FIRE, PULLING OUR ARMIES BACK WILL TAKE TIME. WE HAVE TO ACT NOW.
I AGREE. BUT WE CAN'T JUST ORDER EVERYONE DOWN INTO THE DIVIDE. THE SKRULLS WOULD JUST SHAPE-SHIFT AND VANISH IN THE CONFUSION.
THERE'S ANOTHER WAY. WE'VE DEVELOPED A WEAPON THAT CAN REMOVE SECONDARY ABILITIES--ANYTHING THAT ISN'T TECH-BASED.
IF WE DEPLOY IT IN THE DIVIDE, IT SHOULD LOCK VERANKE AND HER PEOPLE INTO THEIR ALIEN FORMS--WE'LL BE ABLE TO FIND THEM ALL.
FINE. GREAT. WHERE IS IT?
OH, SOMEWHERE DOWN THERE. RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR TROOPS, I'D GUESS.
HNH.
JENNIFER'S DOWN IN THE DIVIDE. SHE'S GOING AFTER VERANKE.
I SYMPATHIZE, STARK. BUT YOU KNOW WE CAN'T WAIT FOR HER.
...
I DO.

YOU WANT ME TO DO WHAT, STEVE? THAT MAKES NO SENSE.
THWAM
JUST DO IT, LOGAN!
YOU'RE THE BOSS, BUB.
SHNNK
SLSH
GRRRAAH!


THE BELLCURVE BOMB SHOULD BE HITTING THE BOTTOM OF THE DIVIDE RIGHT...ABOUT...

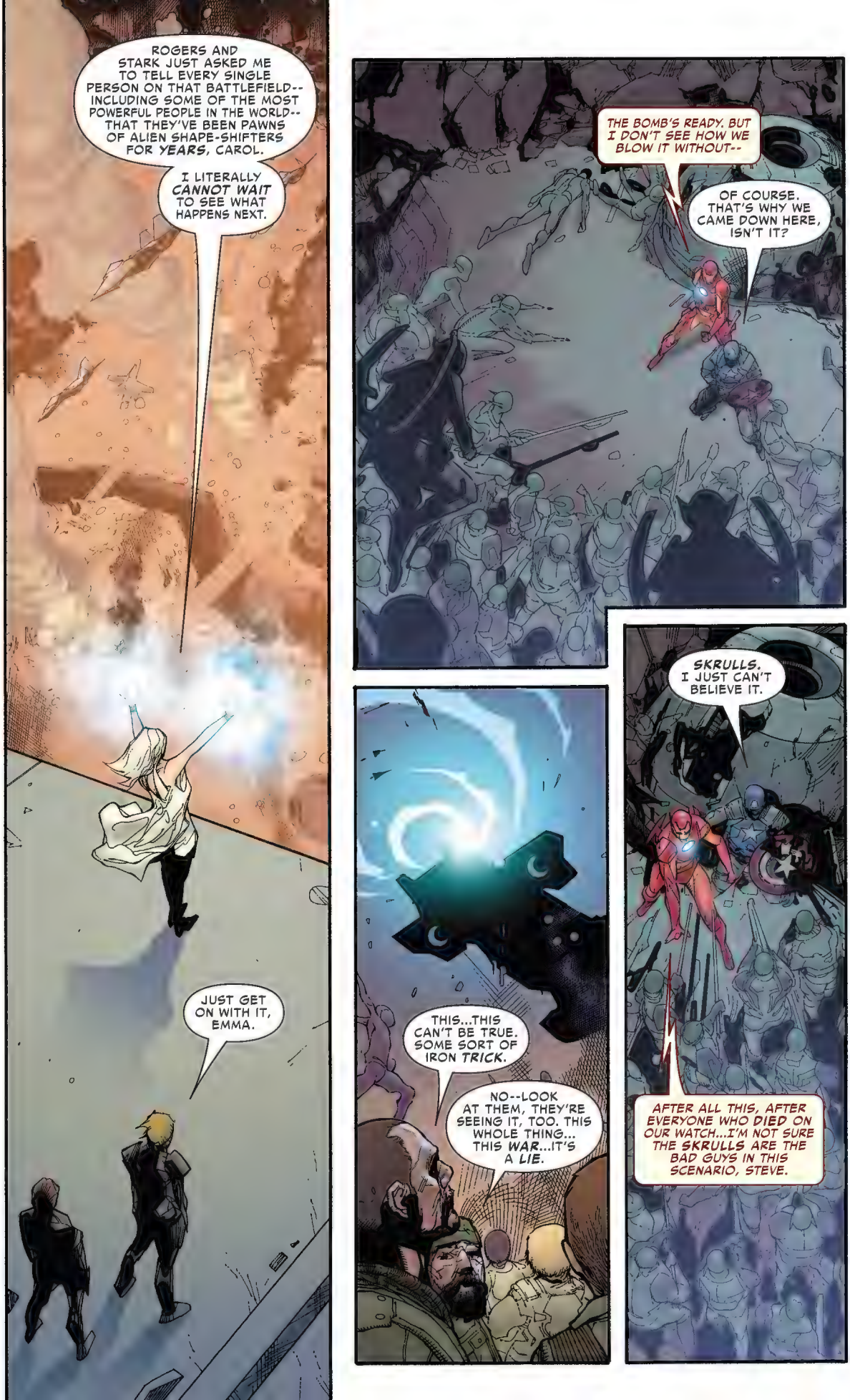
KLK
NOW.

AH...WAS SOMETHING SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN THERE, STEVE?
SIGNAL MUST BE GETTING INTERFERENCE FROM THE BATTLE.

GUESS I'LL HAVE TO HEAD DOWN THERE AND BLOW IT MYSELF.
YEAH. GUESS WE WILL.

HOW COULD WE BOTH BE SO BLIND? FOR SO LONG?
WE LET THEM MAKE US KINGS, STEVE. ONCE THAT HAPPENED, VERANKE'S JOB WAS EASY.
WE COULDN'T ALLOW OURSELVES TO LOSE.
OF COURSE NOT. WE'RE HEROES, AFTER ALL.
SHELL'S CRACKED. LOGAN MUST HAVE DAMAGED THE BOMB WHEN HE RIPPED IT FREE.
THE IMPACT DIDN'T HELP, EITHER.
CAN WE FIX THIS?
TOO LATE FOR THAT. BUT I CAN FIX THE BOMB, AT LEAST.
WHOA!
SZZAK
SKRULLS. KEEP THEM OFF ME, STEVE. LONG AS YOU CAN.
LONG ENOUGH.

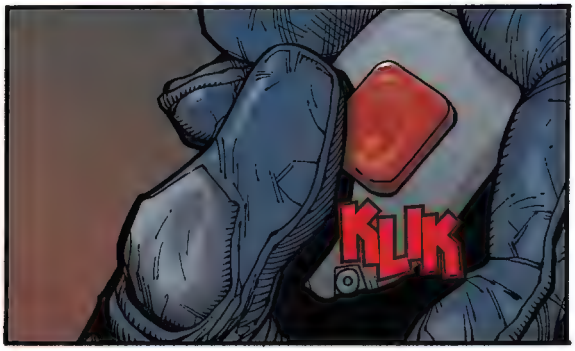
STARK! HURRY THE HELL UP!
WORKING ON IT.
THEY NEED TO KNOW, STARK. THEY ALL NEED TO KNOW THE TRUTH.
KAZAK
YEAH.
EMMA FROST COULD DO IT, BUT SHE CAN'T TOUCH MINDS ON YOUR SIDE. YOU'RE TOO WELL SHIELDED AGAINST TELEPATHIC ATTACKS. YOU'LL HAVE TO GIVE HER ACCESS TO YOUR MENTAL COMMS NETWORK.
YOU'RE INSANE. FROST COULD PUT MY ENTIRE SIDE TO SLEEP.
YUP. SO YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO ASK YOURSELF, CAP: WHOSE SIDE AM I ON?


ROGERS AND STARK JUST ASKED ME TO TELL EVERY SINGLE PERSON ON THAT BATTLEFIELD--INCLUDING SOME OF THE MOST POWERFUL PEOPLE IN THE WORLD--THAT THEY'VE BEEN PAWNS OF ALIEN SHAPE-SHIFTERS FOR YEARS, CAROL.
I LITERALLY CANNOT WAIT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.
JUST GET ON WITH IT, EMMA.
THE BOMB'S READY. BUT I DON'T SEE HOW WE BLOW IT WITHOUT--
OF COURSE. THAT'S WHY WE CAME DOWN HERE, ISN'T IT?
SKRULLS. I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
AFTER ALL THIS, AFTER EVERYONE WHO DIED ON OUR WATCH...I'M NOT SURE THE SKRULLS ARE THE BAD GUYS IN THIS SCENARIO, STEVE.
THIS...THIS CAN'T BE TRUE. SOME SORT OF IRON TRICK.
NO--LOOK AT THEM, THEY'RE SEEING IT, TOO. THIS WHOLE THING... THIS WAR...IT'S A LIE.

DOWN INTO THE DIVIDE! EVERYONE!
PULL ROGERS AND STARK OUT-- AND TARGET EVERY SKRULL YOU SEE!

LOOK AT THEM ALL.

BEAUTIFUL. HEROES, EVERY DAMN ONE.


KLIK

THUD

SSSNAK

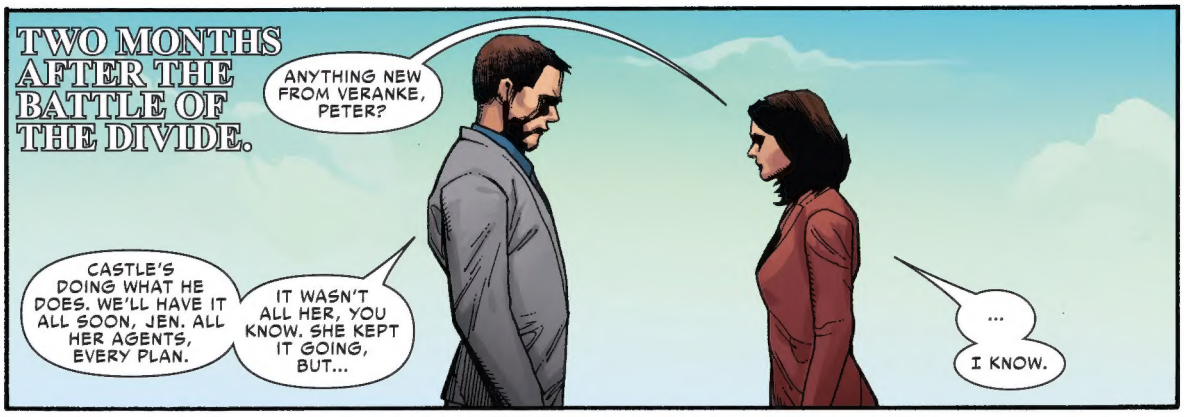
WHAT'S HAPPENING? OUR POWERS...

IF YOU CAN STILL FLY...GRAB A FRIEND!

WHY WOULD YOU DO THIS? YOU FOOLS! WITHOUT YOUR POWERS, YOU ARE DEFENSELESS!
YOU ARE ONLY HUM--

THWAM

YUP.


TWO MONTHS AFTER THE BATTLE OF THE DIVIDE.
ANYTHING NEW FROM VERANKE, PETER?
CASTLE'S DOING WHAT HE DOES. WE'LL HAVE IT ALL SOON, JEN. ALL HER AGENTS, EVERY PLAN.
IT WASN'T ALL HER, YOU KNOW. SHE KEPT IT GOING, BUT...
...
I KNOW.

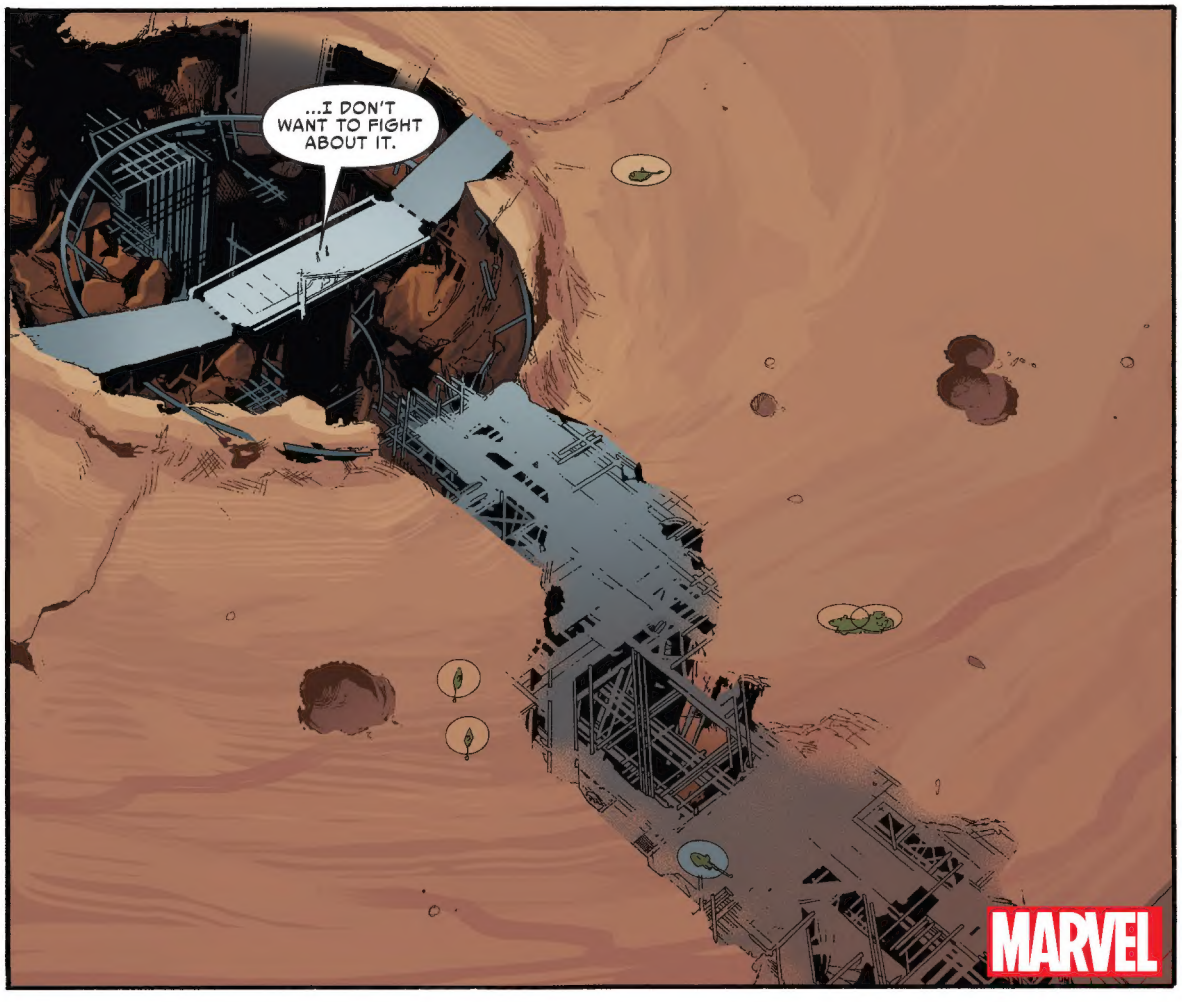
WE GOT THE FOOD YOU GUYS SENT OVER. WE'RE ESTABLISHING OUR OWN TRADE ROUTES NOW THAT YOU'VE LIFTED THE EMBARGOES, BUT EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS.
GLAD TO HEAR IT. EVERYTHING I HEAR TELLS ME THAT THE IRON SETTLERS WE'VE SENT OVER ARE BEING TREATED WELL.
OF COURSE. WHAT, DID YOU THINK WE'D BURN THEM AT THE STAKE?
WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST YOU. AFTER ALL, YOU'RE JUST A BUNCH OF BLUE SAVAGES.

AND MJ? HOW ARE THINGS THERE?

I...DON'T KNOW. WHEN ALL THIS BEGAN, SHE PICKED THE IRON, FOR OUR DAUGHTER. I PICKED THE BLUE. I TOLD HER IT WAS TO STAY OUT OF STARK'S PRISONS...BUT SHE AND I BOTH KNOW IT WAS JUST AS MUCH ABOUT THE FIGHT.
WHAT I HAVE TO GIVE, THEY'RE GETTING. I JUST DON'T KNOW IF IT'S ENOUGH. I HOPE SO. I'M DOING MY BEST.

PETER, THAT'S ALL YOU'VE EVER DONE.

YEAH, WELL. ANYTHING ELSE, OR SHOULD WE JUST MEET BACK HERE NEXT WEEK?
ONE THING. A QUESTION.
SHOOT.
DO YOU THINK THAT STEVE AND TONY...WHEN THEY WERE DOWN THERE, ABOUT TO TRIGGER THE BOMB, JUST BEFORE THEY DIED...
DO YOU THINK THEY KNEW WHAT THEY WERE DOING WHEN THEY TOOK EVERYONE'S POWERS AWAY?
DO YOU THINK THEY DID IT ON *PURPOSE?*
I DON'T KNOW. BUT I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING...


...I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT ABOUT IT.
MARVEL